



PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 04329.2699

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: )  
)  
HIROMUNE SUETSUGU ET AL. ) Group Art Unit: 2663  
)  
Application No.: 09/993,574 ) Examiner: Derrick W. FERRIS  
)  
Filed: November 27, 2001 ) Confirmation No.: 7435  
)  
For: RING INTERCONNECTION )  
NETWORK SYSTEM, NODE )  
EQUIPMENT, NETWORK )  
MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT, )  
AND PATH SETTING METHOD )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In a restriction requirement mailed September 28, 2005, the period for response to which extends through October 28, 2005, the Examiner required restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between claims 1-18 and 31-37 (Group I) and claims 19-30 (Group II). Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, claims 1-18 and 31-37, characterized by the Examiner as drawn to fault recovery in a ring system and more specifically a relationship between a first self-healing function and a second self-healing function, without traverse.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: October 28, 2005

By: Wenye Tan  
Wenye Tan  
Reg. No. 55,662